

Message Text

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FM SECSTATE WASHDC
TO AMEMBASSY CANBERRA

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E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: ASEC, AS

SUBJECT: COST OF SECURITY MEASURES

REF: CANBERRA 5898

1. INTERNATIONAL TERRORISM CONTINUES TO BE A THREAT TO OUR PERSONNEL AND OVERSEAS FACILITIES. WHILE CERTAIN AREAS OF THE WORLD AT ANY GIVEN TIME MAY BE MORE CLEARLY THREATENED BY HOSTILE ACTIVITY, IT IS LIKELY THAT THE NUMBER OF TERRORIST GROUPS AND THE COUNTRIES IN WHICH THEY OPERATE WILL CONTINUE TO GROW.

2. CONSISTENT WITH THIS ASSESSMENT, THE DEPARTMENT MUST TAKE WHATEVER MEASURES ARE NECESSARY TO PROTECT THE LIVES
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AND WELL BEING OF PERSONNEL EMPLOYED AT THESE INSTALLATIONS AND TO PROVIDE SAFEGUARDS FOR PERSONS CONDUCTING LEGITIMATE BUSINESS IN OUR ESTABLISHMENTS.

3' THE PATTERN OF RECENT TERRORIST OPERATIONS INDICATES THAT WE MUST REDUCE OUR VULNERABILITY TO ATTACK VIA THE PUBLIC ACCESS POINT IN OUR FACILITIES.

4. AS INDICATED IN STATE 209642 OF SEPTEMBER 1, 1977, CONCERNING THE PLANNING OF PUBLIC ACCESS CONTROLS IN THE NEW OFFICE BUILDING, SYDNEY, EFFORTS WERE MADE TO MEET THE SECURITY CONCEPTS IN LIGHT OF SOON TO BE ISSUED DEPARTMENT OF STATE MINIMUM SECURITY STANDARDS. IT SHOULD BE EMPHASIZED THAT THE RECOMMENDED PUBLIC ACCESS CONTROLS FOR SYDNEY ARE INTRINSIC FEATURES THAT ARE INCLUDED IN THIS PUBLICATION WHICH HAVE BEEN APPROVED AT THE MOST SENIOR DEPARTMENTAL LEVELS. WE ARE STRESSING THIS POINT BECAUSE IF THE APPROPRIATE DEGREE OF SECURITY IS NOT INCORPORATED INTO THE NEW OFFICE BUILDING, SYDNEY, AT THIS TIME, ADDITIONAL EXPENSE AND EFFORT WILL HAVE TO BE EXPENDED AFTER THE STANDARDS ARE RELEASED.

5. AS REFERENCED TELEGRAM INDICATES, THE DEPARTMENT HAS CAREFULLY REVIEWED THE PLANNED SECURITY FEATURES FOR THE NEW OFFICE SPACE AND MODIFICATIONS WITH THE POSSIBILITY OF SAVING FUNDS, INCREASE SECURITY AND STILL MEET THE STANDARDS THAT WILL SOON BE PUBLISHED. THE DESIGNING ARCHITECTS ALSO TAKE INTO ACCOUNT OUR PUBLIC IMAGE AND HAVE DEMONSTRATED PROFICIENCY IN DESIGNING PUBLIC ACCESS CONTROLS SO THAT THEY ARE ESTHETICALLY PLEASING, THEREBY MINIMIZING THE AFFECT THESE WILL HAVE ON PUBLIC RELATIONS. IN OTHER WORDS, THE AMBASSADOR'S SUGGESTIONS HAVE INDEED BEEN ACTED ON AND HIS THOUGHTS ARE APPRECIATED. CHRISTOHER LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

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